

1.4 CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

1.4.1 24-HOUR NOTIFICATION CAPABILITY

The Division of Radiation Protection has established a 24-hour notification number for reporting of any radiation emergency. This number, 1-206-NUCLEAR (682-5327), is normally answered during office hours by the Nuclear Safety Section staff in the Olympia office. During off-hours or when the phone is not answered in the office, the phone transfers to an answering service. When the answering service takes a call on the 206-NUCLEAR line, they contact the Emergency Response Duty Officer (ERDO) or other Division staff according to procedures provided to them. The ERDO is the primary point of contact for off-hours notifications and is the backup during office hours. The ERDO is provided with a pager with state-wide coverage and a cellular phone.

When notification is received, the ERDO will:

- record information,
- notify/activate appropriate staff and Division management,
- gather resources to complete timely Division notification/response,
- organize and document all notification activities.

Figures 1-1, 1-2, 1-3, and 1-4 provide an overview of the notification process for FNF and non-FNF notifications.

1.4.2 24-HOUR STAFFING

In an emergency, the Division of Radiation Protection has the capability to staff all essential emergency response positions continuously for as long as deemed necessary. The Director or his representative will ensure staff is notified to provide for a second shift of responders. Staff will respond in 12-hour shifts. The Director also has the authority to amend staffing levels or assign staff to positions other than as indicated in the current "Core List" as he deems appropriate.

1.4.3 EMERGENCY CLASSIFICATION LEVELS

There are four basic emergency classification levels established by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and the Federal Emergency Management Agency for use by NRC licensed facilities. These classifications are, in increasing order of severity: Unusual Event, Alert, Site Area Emergency, and General Emergency. The definitions below are for commercial nuclear power plants but are representative of the severity of the hazards for emergencies at other nuclear facilities. The NRC licensed facilities in Washington State that use this basic classification scheme are: Columbia Generating Station, Framatome ANP, and Allied Technology Group - Richland. The US Department of Energy has adopted similar criteria and classifications for emergencies at its facilities.

The NUREG-0654 definitions of these classifications are: